

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Beach et al.

Serial No: 10/055,797

Filed: January 22, 2002

For: Methods and Compositions for RNA  
Interference

Attorney Docket No. GNCA-P03-007

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: LACOURCIERE, Karen

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to (703) \_\_\_\_\_ for the attention of the Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Vincent

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the claims of the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Cancel claims 1-47 without prejudice.**

48. **(amended)** A method for attenuating expression of a target gene in mammalian cells, comprising introducing into the mammalian cells a single-stranded hairpin ribonucleic acid (RNA) comprising self complementary sequences that form a duplex region, which self complementary sequences hybridize under intracellular conditions to a target gene, wherein said hairpin RNA (i) is a substrate for cleavage by a RNaseIII enzyme to produce a double-stranded RNA product, and (ii) reduces expression of said target gene in a manner dependent on the sequence of said complementary regions.